

THE GREATEST SHOW IN THE GALAXY

Stephen Wyatt

EPISODE THREE : Second Draft

+ THIRD DRAFT loose pages

Characters

THE DOCTOR  
ACE  
THE RINGMASTER  
BELLBOY  
MORGANA  
DEADBEAT  
THE CHIEF CLOWN  
CAPTAIN COOK  
MAGS  
THE WHIZZKID  
MOTHER  
FATHER  
LITTLE GIRL

(1, 3, 32, 46) (new scene)  
- all subsequent pages  
are remembered)

CLOWNS.

Sets

INTERIOR:

The Circus Ring  
The Circus Vestibule  
The Circus Backstage Area.  
Two Circus Corridors (re-dressed)  
Workshop

The Stone Passageway and Chamber

EXTERIOR:

The Circus Site  
The Hippy Site

DESCRIBE  
TRANSFORMATION  
(ROAD STATE CHANGES, ETC.)

EPISODE THREE ;

REPRISE OF END OF EPISODE TWO

1. INT. STONE CHAMBER.

THE CAPTAIN STILL CONFRONTS MAGS AND THE DOCTOR.

MAGS: Why did you bring them here ?

CAPTAIN: Survival of the fittest, old girl. Don't tell me you never came across that on the Planet ~~Maevulpine~~ *Vulpana*.

DOCTOR: We could be on the point of getting to the bottom of the mystery of the Psychic Circus. Doesn't that mean anything to you ?

CAPTAIN: Frankly, old man, no. Anyway, what's going on seems pretty clear to me. Anybody dumb enough to get into the Ring gets killed. Shall we be going ?

HE INDICATES TO THE CLOWNS TO ADVANCE. REALISING ESCAPE IS HOPELESS MAGS AND THE DOCTOR ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE LEAD AWAY. BUT MAGS IS CLEARLY FURIOUS. ~~HE SCREAMS WITH RAGE~~  
WE END ON THE EYE BALEFULLY STARING FROM THE WELL.

~~THE END~~

2. INT. VESTIBULE.

MORGANA STARES INTO HER CRYSTAL BALL.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IT HAS STARTED TO TURN CLOUDY.

WITH AN EFFORT SHE AVERTS HER EYES FROM IT AND SITS AT HER SEAT SEVERELY SHAKEN.

THEN SHE GETS UP AND GOES IN THE DIRECTION OF THE BIG TOP.

3. INT. CORRIDOR.

THE CAPTAIN LEADS FOLLOWED BY MAGS AND THE DOCTOR WITH CLOWNS JUST BEHIND. THEY PASS BACK THROUGH THE STONE ARCH.

THE FURIOUS MAGS GLANCES UP AT THE MOON SYMBOL OVER THE ARCH. IT APPEARS TO GROW LARGER AND TO GLOW.

THE CAPTAIN GLANCES BACK AND STOPS IN ALARM.

ALL STARE. MAGS SUDDENLY CHANGES HER STANCE AND TURNS ON THE CAPTAIN AND THE CLOWNS WITH A THREATENING PHYSICAL AGGRESSIVENESS THAT TAKES THEM ABACK.

THEY FALL BACK BEFORE IT.

CAPTAIN: Mags now, please, not now. Not yet.

MAGS TURNS TO THE DOCTOR, HER EYES PLEADING.

MAGS: Go...

THE DOCTOR UNDERSTANDS. THE CLOWNS TRY TO PREVENT HIM BUT THE SNARLING MAGS STOPS THEM. THE MOON GLOWS.

THE DOCTOR STARTS TO RUN DOWN THE CORRIDOR.

ND  
SC. 8 INCLUDES:  
BUSINESS TAKEN OVER FROM  
EP 2 SC 24 OF THE USUAL  
HARSH ANIM



4. INT. CORRIDOR.

THE DOCTOR RUNS DOWN THE CORRIDOR THEN PAUSES THOUGHTFULLY TO  
DECIDE WHAT TO DO NEXT.

HE MAKES A DECISION AND STARTS TO TIPTOE CAUTIOUSLY AROUND A  
CORNER AND INTO ANOTHER CORRIDOR.

STRETCHES AN ARM TOWARDS ACE.  
SHE TUGS AT IT.  
THE METAL ARM COMES OFF  
ACE RAISES IT AS A WEAPON AND  
(5) STRIKES AT THE APPROACHING ROBOTS

5. INT. WORKSHOP.

THE LEADING MECHANIC (CLOWN) ~~THROWS~~ ~~IN~~ ~~ROUND~~ ~~ACE~~. SHE IS LAYING  
~~ABOUT HER WITH THE ROBOT ARM WITHOUT MUCH SUCCESS.~~

ACE: Just cos I said I don't like clowns doesn't mean I'm scared of  
clowns, OK ? Got that, tincan head ?

DESPITE HER EFFORTS, ACE IS NOW PINNED TO THE WALL.

ACE: I said, got that, tincan head ?

THE LEADING CLOWN OPENS ITS MOUTH. BUT ONLY WEIRD METALLIC  
SOUNDS COME OUT. THE OTHERS JOIN IN THE BABBLE.

ACE PUTS HER HANDS TO HER EARS.

THEN THE SOUND CUTS. AND THE CLOWNS ALL FREEZE.

ACE GIVES THE LEADING ONE A PUSH.

IT FALLS OVER WITH A CLATTER.

AMAZED ACE DROPS THE ROBOT ARM AND LOOKS BEYOND THE CLOWNS.

IN THE GLOOM WE CAN MAKE OUT THE WORKSHOP NOW CLUTTERED WITH  
HALF-FINISHED ROBOTS, CARNIVAL HEADS, BRIGHTLY COLOURED PROPS  
ETC.

IN ONE CORNER SITS THE DISHEVELLED BELLBOY HOLDING SOME SORT  
OF CONTROL PANEL. HE IS TEARFUL AND APOLOGETIC.

BELLBOY: They shouldn't have...I was tired... I'm sorry....I'm sorry.

ACE ADVANCES TOWARDS HIM SLOWLY.

ACE: So it's you again.

HE STARES AT ACE NOT REALLY RECOGNISING HER. THEN SHE HOLDS  
OUT HER HAND TO FIND HER WAY.

AND BELLBOY SEES THE BANGLE.

BELLBOY: Flowerchild !

6. INT. THE RING.

THE FAMILY SIT PASSIVELY IN AN EMPTY CIRCUS TENT.  
BRIGHT CIRCUS MUSIC PLAYS BUT NOTHING IS HAPPENING.  
PAUSE. MOTHER PASSES ROUND THE CRISPS.

MOTHER: I don't think much of this, father.  
FATHER: Nothing's happening, is it ?  
MOTHER: Not that I can see.  
GIRL: Mummy, Mummy -  
MOTHER: What is it, Sandra ?  
GIRL: I'm bored, Mummy.  
FATHER: There's no point in going on, Sandra. We're all bored. (PAUSE)  
Something's going to have to happen soon.  
GIRL: I'm hungry.  
MOTHER: (REACHING INSIDE BAG) Here. Have a monster choc ice.

SHE HOLDS IT OUT. THE LITTLE GIRL EYES IT UNCERTAINLY.

GIRL: Mummy, what flavour monster ?

7. INT. BACKSTAGE.

THE RINGMASTER WAITS COOLLY BY THE OPEN CAGE DOOR. MORGANA RUSHES IN.

MORGANA: What's been happening ? Has the Doctor escaped too ?

RINGMASTER: (CALMLY) Hey, hey, stay cool.

MORGANA: The Doctor and the girl. I liked them - but he's trouble for us, I can see it out there.

RINGMASTER: Don't take your crystal ball act too seriously, Morgana. They'll be back.

THE CHIEF CLOWN ENTERS TO HEAR THIS.

CHIEF CLOWN: I've taken care of the girl, Ace. But are you sure the other two will be re-captured ?

RINGMASTER: (NODS) Yep. (PAUSE) The Captain's a dead man if anything goes wrong.

CHIEF CLOWN: You let him out to get the others back ?

RINGMASTER: (NODS) Yep. Trust me.

MORGANA: You do realise there's no act in the ring, don't you ?

RINGMASTER: I had noticed.

CHIEF CLOWN: And you know what happens if we don't get an act out there very soon ?

RINGMASTER: Easy, easy. I know. Anyway, there's always him.

HE POINTS TOWARDS THE WHIZZKID WHO SITS ENTHRALLED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CAGE.

CHIEF CLOWN: I'd rather make sure the Doctor's been put through it first.

THE WHIZZKID SEES HIM AND NOW COMES UP TO THEM.

WHIZZKID: Hello, you're the Chief Clown, aren't you ? I knew you immediately. You see, I've got pictures of all of you right back to the very early days. In fact, I've got a poster from your very first show on the planet Othrys.

( 8 )

THE CHIEF CLOWN STARES. THE WHIZZKID PRODUCES AN AUTOGRAPH BOOK.

WHIZZKID: Could you sign your names in this please ? (PAUSE) And you too, please, Morgana.

MORGANA SHAKES HER HEAD PITYINGLY AT HIS ENTHUSIASM.

8. INT. CORRIDOR.

THE CAPTAIN AND MAGS, NOW NORMAL AGAIN, ARE BEING MARCHED  
ALONG UNDER A GUARD OF CLOWNS.

CAPTAIN: (REPROACHFULLY) How could you do this to me, Mags. After all I've  
done for you. The Doctor gets away and you and I are going back  
under guard.

MAGS: You were lucky.

CAPTAIN: Well, in a way, I suppose. I'm still in one piece. You could have  
given us the full works.

But the ~~new~~ old team of Mags and the Captain'll ~~stick~~ *stick*  
stucktogether as usual. (CHEERING UP)) As a matter of fact it  
reminds me of the time on Fagiros when the Architrave of Batgeld  
was showing me his collection of early Ganglion pottery and ...

HIS VOICE ECHOES DOWN THE CORRIDOR.

9. INT. VESTIBULE.

THE DOCTOR SNEAKS INTO THE EMPTY VESTIBULE AND LOOKS AROUND HIM. HE NOTICES THE KITES AND ON THEM THE EYE SYMBOL.

DOCTOR: Of course, of course.

THEN HE SEES THE CRYSTAL BALL ON THE DESK AND GOES OVER TO IT. HE STARES AT IT. THE CRYSTAL BALL IS STILL CLOUDED. BUT SUDDENLY THE BALL CLEARS AND THE RED EYE SEEN IN THE WELL APPEARS AT ITS CENTRE. THE DOCTOR REGARDS IT GRAVELY.

DOCTOR: Things are obviously beginning to get beyond anyone's control.

HE HEARS A SOUND AND HIDES AS WELL AS HE CAN BEHIND THE DESK. FROM HIS VANTAGE POINT HE SEES SOMEONE APPROACHING THE CRYSTAL BALL. IT IS DEADBEAT.

DEADBEAT LOOKS AT THE BALL AND SEES THE EYE.

HE STARTS TO RAISE THE LOCKET THAT HE HAS ROUND HIS NECK BUT SOMETHING STOPS HIM.

HE FLINCHES BACK IN HORROR FROM THE CRYSTAL BALL.

DEADBEAT: No...no...

HE RUNS FROM THE ROOM. THE DOCTOR EMERGES FROM HIDING AND STARTS TO FOLLOW HIM. AS HE LEAVES HE PASSES AN OLD CIRCUS POSTER ADVERTISING 'Great Fun for all the Family..'

DOCTOR: (SHAKING HIS HEAD) I don't know how they have the nerve.

HE LEAVES IN PURSUIT OF DEADBEAT.

10. INT. WORKSHOP.

BELLBOY SITS SADLY CLUTCHING THE BANGLE, TALKING TO ACE. SHE IS EXAMINING ONE OF THE CONTROL DEVICES, PARTLY OUT OF EMBARRASSMENT AT HIS STRONG EMOTION.

BELLBOY: Flowerchild... They murdered you... With a robot I made...  
ACE: You're sure that's what happened ?  
BELLBOY: (LOOKING AT THE BANGLE) There can be no doubt. Every robot, every clown in the circus I made and maintained. For this. They wouldn't even let me die now. They need me still.  
ACE: You mean, no one else knows how ?  
BELLBOY: We each agreed to learn one circus skill and become pre-eminent in that. (INDICATING THE HEAD) Mine was this.  
ACE: (TRYING TO BE KIND) This control unit is brill.  
BELLBOY: Have it.  
ACE: Really ?  
BELLBOY: It's no use to me here. It controls that.

HE POINTS TO A MODEL OF THE ROBOT WE SAW HALF BURIED IN EP. ONE. ACE STARTS TO PRESS ONE OF THE CONTROL BUTTONS.

BELLBOY: Careful. That activates the laser beam eyes. (PAUSE) It was to have been my masterpiece. But, like everything else, it was misused and went wrong. (PAUSE. HE SIGHS) We had such high ideals when we started. We shared everything. We enjoyed developing our circus skills and making people happy. If there were any problems we'd sit round and talk them out. We were all happy. At least it seemed we were....  
ACE: (EXAMINING THE ROBOT MODEL) Until you came here ?  
BELLBOY: Yes. And even then at first we thought...  
ACE: What ?  
BELLBOY: (SEARCHING FOR WORDS) We thought... we thought ... (WEARILY) It's so difficult to remember... But we knew once why we came here... And it was an important place for us and... (FADING AWAY) I'm sorry. I can hardly think. You see ... Oh, Flowerchild.

HE HOLDS UP THE BANGLE AGAIN AND BURSTS INTO TEARS. ACE IS UNCERTAIN HOW TO COPE.



11. INT. CORRIDOR.

THE DOCTOR IS FOLLOWING DEADBEAT. SUDDENLY DEADBEAT STOPS AND TURNS GRINNING. HE HAS CLEARLY KNOWN THE DOCTOR'S BEEN THERE FOR SOME TIME. THE DOCTOR ADVANCES SMILING, MAKING THE BEST OF IT.

DOCTOR: Hello there, Deadbeat. Fancy seeing you here. Small world, eh?

THE DOCTOR MOVES CLOSER TO DEADBEAT.

DOCTOR: I've been wanting us to have a chat as a matter of fact. It frightened you to see that eye again, didn't it ? It means the powers behind it are on the move. (PAUSE) Something happened to you here, didn't it ? I know you can't always have been like this. Did you try and find something out ? And were you punished? (WITH A SIGH) Can you understand anything I'm saying?

DEADBEAT STARES AT HIM TRANSFIXED.

DOCTOR: I'll tell you one thing I do know, Deadbeat. You're not going to give me away to the others, are you ?

A PAUSE. THEN DEADBEAT SHAKES HIS HEAD AND GRINS. THEN HE STARTS TO CROAK A HIPPI STYLE NUMBER, NOT VERY TUNEFUL.

DEADBEAT: Follow...follow the track....Follow the track, there's no turning back....Follow...follow the track...

HE STARTS TO MOVE OFF DOWN THE CORRIDOR.

THE DOCTOR REALISES HE IS SUPPOSED TO FOLLOW AND DOES SO.

DOCTOR: Lead on, Deadbeat.

12. INT. BIG TENT.

THE FAMILY SIT ALL EATING CHOC ICES.  
MUSIC BLARES. BUT NOTHING IS HAPPENING.

FATHER: You know I could get quite cross about this.

THEY ALL BITE INTO THEIR CHOC ICES AS ONE.  
A CANNED FANFARE. MORGANA EMERGES FROM THE BACKSTAGE AREA  
LOOKING FLUSTERED BUT PLASTERS A GRIN ON HER FACE.

MORGANA: Stay cool, ladies and gentlemen, please. The next performance will  
start in a few minutes.

SHE GIVES A FORCED SMILE AND EXITS TOWARDS THE VESTIBULE.  
PAUSE.

MOTHER: Well !

13. INT. BACKSTAGE.

THE CAPTAIN, MAGS AND ATTENDANT CLOWNS RETURN, THE CAPTAIN WITH A TRIUMPHANT GRIN.

THE CHIEF CLOWN AND WHIZZKID TURN.

WHIZZKID: Oh wow ! Are those the famous robotic clowns that -

CHIEF CLOWN: Quiet ! (TO THE CAPTAIN) Where's the Doctor ?

CAPTAIN: I'm afraid he gave us the slip.

CHIEF CLOWN: He did what ?

CAPTAIN: He gave us the slip. A very similar thing happened to me once in the Bay of Paranoia on Golobus and -

CHIEF CLOWN: I don't care what happened on Golobus.

CAPTAIN: Your loss old man. (INDICATING MAGS) Anyway, it was all her fault, of course.

MAGS: Hang on a moment, you promised me -

CAPTAIN: (OVER-RIDING THIS) I imagine you'll have to put her in the ring next as some sort of punishment.

CHIEF CLOWN: No.

CAPTAIN: Oh. Found someone else then ?

CHIEF CLOWN: (GRIMLY) Oh yes.

CAPTAIN: May I enquire who ?

CHIEF CLOWN: You.

THE CAPTAIN STARES AT HIM IN DISBELIEF. THE WHIZZKID COMES UP TO HIM.

WHIZZKID: Excuse me, aren't you Captain Cook, the famous inter-galactic explorer. I've got maps at home showing all your journeys and a piece of one of your old shoes I bought in a souvenir shop on -

CAPTAIN: (RUFFLED FOR ONCE) Will you leave me alone ?

14. INT. VESTIBULE.

MORGANA IS AT THE CRYSTAL BALL AGAIN. SHE STARES AT IT IN  
TERROR. WE MOVE CLOSER TO HER EYES.

THE EYE LOOKS OUT FROM THE BALL AT HER.

THE RINGMASTER BUSTLES IN. HE SHAKES HER.

RINGMASTER: Hey, cool it, Morgana. You were well away there.

MORGANA: (POINTING AT THE EYE) Look ! It's here now.

RINGMASTER: (NERVOUSLY) What do you mean ?

MORGANA: (STARING AT HIM COOLLY) What we found. What we serve. It'll  
always <sup>be</sup> here now. Waiting for us to fail.

RINGMASTER: (LOOKING AWAY) Hey, Morgana, don't come with all that now.

MORGANA: Don't pretend you don't see.

RINGMASTER: We've got an empty circus tent in there. I don't want to talk  
about anything else.

MORGANA: Send in another act.

RINGMASTER: I will, baby, just as soon as -

THE CHIEF CLOWN COMES IN ANGRILY.

CHIEF CLOWN: The Doctor escaped. Your idiot of a Captain failed us.

RINGMASTER: (SHRUGS) Send him into the Ring.

CHIEF CLOWN: Of course. It's arranged already. But I'm more worried about the  
Doctor. Who knows what he might discover if we don't recapture  
him quickly ?

RINGMASTER: Let's go find him then.

~~CHIEF~~ CLOWN: I'll go find him. You get back in the Ring.

RINGMASTER: Now, just a minute, man, I don't like -

MORGANA: Quiet, both of you. Look !

SHE POINTS TO THE CRYSTAL BALL WHICH IS CHANGING COLOUR.

THEY ALL GATHER ROUND THE BALL. IN IT WE SEE AN IMAGE OF THE  
DOCTOR FOLLOWING DEADBEAT DOWN A CORRIDOR.

THEY WATCH IN SILENCE.

MORGANA: (AWED) It's shown him to us.

RINGMASTER: And he's with Deadbeat.

~~CHIEF~~ CLOWN: Then he must be stopped at once.

15. INT. CORRIDOR.

THE SCENE WE'VE ALREADY SEEN IN THE CRYSTAL BALL IN SC.14. WITH THE DOCTOR FOLLOWING DEADBEAT. DEADBEAT IS STILL SINGING HIS WEIRD LITTLE DITTY.

DOCTOR:       Where are you taking me, Deadbeat. This isn't the way to the Stone Passage, is it ?

DEADBEAT SHAKES HIS HEAD.

DOCTOR:       I do hope you're not leading me somewhere I don't want to go.

DEADBEAT GRINS AND BECKONS HIM ON.

16. INT. WORKSHOP.

BELLBOY STILL CLUTCHES THE BANGLE.

BELLBOY: Kites. She made beautiful kites. Every colour of the rainbow. All shapes and sizes. Animals. Birds. Ships. Trees. And they destroyed it all. They used them to watch us and trap us and keep us here. And after they'd destroyed them, they destroyed her.

ACE: (ILL AT EASE WITH ALL THIS EMOTION) It'll be OK, Bellboy. We'll get you out of here.

BELLBOY: Why should I want to get out of here. It's gone. The fun, the freedom, the being what you want to be. All of it. Don't you understand ?

ACE: Yes. (CLEARS THROAT) Look, I'm sorry. But we can't stay here for ever, can we ? I need to find the Doctor for a start.

BELLBOY: They've taken all that was bright and good about what we had and buried it where it can never be found again.

ACE: I don't follow. Who's 'they' ?

BELLBOY: The ones who run the Circus now. The ones you've met. But not just them, there was... (HE STARTS TO STUMBLE) there was... (HE SHAKES HIS HEAD IN DESPAIR) It won't come back... But the best were all destroyed one by one... Flowerchild and Juniper Berry and Peacepipe and... (HIS BROW FURROWS) and Deadbeat...

ACE: Deadbeat ? I've seen him. He just sweeps the floors.

BELLBOY: (SHAKING HIS HEAD) No, he wasn't Deadbeat then, he was... No, it's gone. But he was our brightest and our best then... I remember that.

HE STOPS AND STARES AT ACE.

BELLBOY: There's nothing I want now. The dream's over.

17. INT. CORRIDOR.

THE CHIEF CLOWN COMES DOWN THE CORRIDOR GRIM-FACED WITH ROBOT  
CLOWNS BEHIND HIM.

18. INT. WORKSHOP.

THE DOOR RATTLES ON THE OUTSIDE. BELLBOY AND ACE LOOK UP.

ACE: I guess they're coming to take me off to the ring, Bellboy. They may need you to repair the robots. But I'm just trouble.

THE DOOR STILL RATTLES. BELLBOY STARES AT IT.

ACE: Making a bit of a pigs' ear of opening the door, aren't they ? It can't be that difficult.

BELLBOY: Maybe it is the end after all.

ACE: Don't sound so pleased, please. Just for me.

THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN. ACE WAITS TENSELY. A FIGURE SLOWLY APPEARS THROUGH IT. IT IS DEADBEAT. FOLLOWED A MOMENT LATER BY THE DOCTOR.

ACE: Professor !

DOCTOR: (BEAMING AT HER) Deadbeat, I take it all back.

HE ADVANCES INTO THE ROOM TO GREET ACE.

DEADBEAT STAYS BY THE DOOR GRINNING. HE STARTS TO SING AGAIN:

DEADBEAT: Sift the dreams in your mind, sift the dreams in your mind,  
you'll be amazed by all that you'll find.

HIS EYES MEET THOSE OF BELLBOY.

BELLBOY: Kingpin. That was your name. Kingpin.

THE DOCTOR AND ACE STARE AT THE TWO OF THEM.



19. INT. BACKSTAGE.

THE CAPTAIN, MAGS AND THE WHIZZKID IN THE CAGE GUARDED BY CLOWNS. THE WHIZZKID IS ENTHRALLED BY THE CAPTAIN. MAGS PROWLs ANGRILY APART FROM THE OTHERS.

CAPTAIN: So you've always been interested in the Psychic Circus, have you?  
WHIZZKID: Oh yes. Of course, I've never been able to visit it before now but I've got all sorts of souvenirs. Copies of the advertising satellites that have ever been sent out. All the posters. I had a long correspondence with one of the founder members too, soon after it started. Of course, although I never saw the early days, I know it's not as good as it was when it started but I'm still terribly interested -

THE RINGMASTER APPEARS FROM THE RING.

RINGMASTER: Two minutes, Captain.  
CAPTAIN: (CALMLY) Thanks, Ringmaster.

THE RINGMASTER LEAVES. THE CAPTAIN TURNS WINNINGLY TO THE WHIZZKID.

CAPTAIN: No doubt you dream of having the ultimate Psychic Circus experience as soon as possible ?  
WHIZZKID: Sorry ?  
CAPTAIN: You ache for the moment when you do your own act within that sawdust covered magic circle ?  
WHIZZKID: (EAGERLY) Oh,, yes, of course. I mean, there's no real danger is there really ?  
CAPTAIN: Only to those without resource or imagination or panache. I'm sure you have all those qualities.  
WHIZZKID: Well, I don't really know....  
CAPTAIN: Come, come, don't be so absurdly modest.

MAGS BECOMES AWARE OF WHAT'S GOING ON.

MAGS: Hey, kid, don't listen -

WHIZZKID: But this is one of my heroes. Captain Cook, the intergalactic explorer.

CAPTAIN: (SMOOTHLY) Exactly. And shall I tell you what I'm prepared to do for you ? As a special favour ?

WHIZZKID: What ?

CAPTAIN: Postpone my brief moment of glory in the Ring so that you may enjoy the unforgettable experience before me. Far beyond the Bouncing Upas Trees of Boromeo or the Singing Squids of Anagonia.

WHIZZKID: (WIDE-EYED) Are you sure you can bear to let me go first ?

CAPTAIN: (HONESTLY FOR ONCE) It is a sacrifice I am prepared to make.

THE RINGMASTER RE-APPEARS FOLLOWED BY THE TEAM OF MAKE-UP AND WARDROBE CLOWN ROBOTS AS BEFORE. THE CAGE DOOR SWINGS OPEN.

CAPTAIN: Yours be the glory.

THE WHIZZKID STARES ENTRANCED AT THE NEW ARRIVALS.

CAPTAIN: I think you'll find, Ringmaster, that this young man wishes to take my place in the Ring.

RINGMASTER: You're sure ?

THE WHIZZKID NODS ENTHUSIASTICALLY. IMMEDIATELY THE MAKE-TEAM SWARM ROUND HIM. MAGS TRIES TO INTERFERE BUT IS PUSHED BACK BY THE CAPTAIN.

CAPTAIN: It's useless, Mags. He'll never believe you. I've never met anybody quite so gullible since -

HE PAUSES IN GENUINE SURPRISE.

CAPTAIN: You know, I don't think I've ever met anyone quite so gullible.

THE WHIZZKID MEANWHILE GLORIES IN THE MINISTRATIONS OF THE CLOWNS.

20. INT. WORKSHOP.

DEADBEAT IS SLUMPED IN A CORNER SINGING TO HIMSELF.

DEADBEAT: Sift the dreams... sift the dreams... When the mind's divided, the body screams...

THE DOCTOR AND ACE WATCH HIM WHILE LISTENING TO BELLBOY.

BELLBOY: Some of it comes back now. Not all. When he was Kingpin, he was the one who persuaded us to come here. I think there was something he wanted. Something he knew about. We all trusted him. (WRYLY) We all trusted each other in those days.

DOCTOR: But something went wrong ?

BELLBOY: Yes. Something went very wrong. It... it... (HE FURROWS HIS BROW AGAIN) This place, you see, it does things to you.

DOCTOR: And so a friendly hippy circus became a trap for killing people.

BELLBOY: Yes.

HE STARES AGAIN AT FLOWERCHILD'S BANGLE.

BELLBOY: Even our own kind. (PAUSE) But that was after Kingpin was no longer Kingpin. Something went with him.

DOCTOR: And the well ?

BELLBOY: (GENUINELY PUZZLED) What well ?

DOCTOR: You don't know anything about a well ? With an eye staring out from inside ?

ACE: An eye like those on Flowerchild's - like the one on the kites ~~like this~~.

*SHE HOLDS UP THE CANNIBALISED MIKE DEVICE SHE MADE FROM THE KITE. BELLBOY SHAKES HIS HEAD WISTFULLY.*

*BELLBOY SHAKES HIS HEAD WISTFULLY.*

BELLBOY: No. Not any more.

A GLOOMY PAUSE. BROKEN BY A CACKLE FROM DEADBEAT. THE OTHERS STARE AT HIM. HE STARTS TO SING AGAIN.

(23)

DEADBEAT: Look, look, look in the well... The eye gives you promises...  
Promises of heaven or hell...

ACE: He's off.

~~DEADBEAT~~  
~~BELLES~~ CACKLES AGAIN. THE DOCTOR GOES UP TO HIM.

DOCTOR: You know about it, don't you, Deadbeat ?

DEADBEAT NODS.

DOCTOR: Tell us what you know. Please.

WE END OF A CLOSE UP OF DEADBEAT'S VACANT STARING FACE.

(24)

21. INT. STONE CHAMBER.

THE EYE STARES UNBLINKINGLY OUT OF THE WELL.

22. INT. VESTIBULE.

THE EYE STARES OUT FROM MORGANA'S CRYSTAL BALL.  
MORGANA SPEAKS SOFTLY TO IT.

MORGANA:     Don't be angry with us. More are on the way.

23. INT. CORRIDOR. (AS IN SC. 15)

THE CHIEF CLOWN WITH HIS POSSE OF ROBOT CLOWNS COME DOWN THE CORRIDOR. THE CHIEF CLOWN PAUSES AND THINKS FOR A MOMENT. THEN HE SMILES AND FOLLOWS THE WAY DEADBEAT AND THE DOCTOR WENT BEFORE.

(27)

24. INT. THE CIRCUS RING : SEATING.

THE FAMILY SIT WAITING AND EATING. THE DRUMROLL THAT STARTS  
THE CIRCUS IS HEARD.

MOTHER:     At last.



25. INT. THE RING. (CONTINUOUS)

THE CLOWNS ARE CIRCLING THE RING.

THEY POINT TO THE CENTRE AND THE RINGMASTER APPEARS.

RINGMASTER: Now welcome folks and I'm sure you'd like to know  
We've a great new act for our circus show.  
Now welcome please with all the warmth you can  
The Psychic Circus's greatest fan....

CANNED APPLAUSE AS THE WHIZZKID IS WHEELED IN IN HIS MOBILE  
CAGE, HE IS LET OUT BY THE CLOWNS. A SPOT HITS HIM.  
HE STANDS THERE ENTRANCED.

WHIZZKID: This is the most exciting day of my life, my dreams come true, I  
am standing in the ring of the Psychic Circus.

THE RINGMASTER PATS HIM ON THE BACK TO FURTHER APPLAUSE. BUT  
GAZES AT HIM WITH ILL-CONCEALED ILL INTENT.

26. INT. BACKSTAGE.

MAGS CONFRONTS THE CAPTAIN.

MAGS: You sent that kid out to his death.

CAPTAIN: Nonsense. He may be a great success. I can remember at the  
Sacred Games at Muscolane -

27. INT. THE RING : SEATING

THE FAMILY HOLD UP THE SIGNS. ALL READ 'O'.

28. INT. BACKSTAGE.

CAPTAIN: (CONTINUING)- so it just goes to show you can never be certain.

THE CROWD NOISES CUT OFF AND A SCREAM IS HEARD. THEN THE SCREAM ITSELF IS CUT OFF AND THERE IS SILENCE.

THE CAPTAIN POURS HIMSELF SOME TEA.

CAPTAIN: As I said, survival of the fittest, eh, Mags ?

SHE GLARES AT HIM, TOO ANGRY TO SPEAK.

29. INT. THE RING.

DRUMROLL. THE RINGMASTER POINTS TOWARDS THE WHIZZKID'S SPOT NOW LURIDLY COLOURED. THE WHIZZKID IS NO LONGER IN IT. THE RINGMASTER MAKES A GESTURE AND THE SPOT SNAPS OFF. THEN GRINNING HE HOLDS UP IN HIS OTHER HAND THE WHIZZKID'S PAIR OF SPECTACLES ALL BUCKLED AND TWISTED.

30. INT. WORKSHOP.

THE DOCTOR, ACE AND BELLBOY CLUSTER ROUND DEADBEAT.

DOCTOR: Poor Deadbeat. He thought he could control whatever dark powers that dwell here but they destroyed him instead. Perhaps it's safer being a Ringmaster and just obeying orders. (TO DEADBEAT) Deadbeat, if we take you to the well, can you show us what you did ?

DEADBEAT NODS.

DOCTOR: From what you say, Bellboy, everyone's at risk unless we confront and destroy the powers that are sapping the energy from this place.

ACE: How do we know it's not a con, Professor ?

DOCTOR: He lead me here to you and Bellboy, Ace. He must have done that for a purpose.

ACE: Not if your brains are that scrambled.

DOCTOR: There's something going on in there, Ace. I saw it when he looked into the crystal ball.

ACE: You're just an ageing hippy at heart, Professor.

DOCTOR: I suspect there may be something in that. Now we'd better be going, Bellboy ?

BELLBOY: (SHAKING HIS HEAD) No.

ACE: Come on, Bellboy.

BELLBOY: The Chief Clown will come here after you. I can delay him for you a while. It would be good to be useful at the last.

ACE: But, Bellboy -

BELLBOY: You still don't understand. Everything I loved has gone. What's the point of living on to do work I hate ?

DOCTOR: (QUIETLY) So be it then. Thank you, Bellboy. (RISING) And come on, Deadbeat - or should I call you, Kingpin ? We have work to do.

DEADBEAT STARTS TO SING UNDER THIS :

DEADBEAT: The sun comes up... we see it shine... the sun's not anyone's... not yours or mine...

ACE AND THE DOCTOR LEAD HIM TO THE DOOR. ACE TURNS AS THEY LEAVE, EMBARRASSED AT HER EMOTION.

ACE:           Bye now, Bellboy. All the best. (HOLDING UP THE CONTROL) Oh, and, er, thanks for this.

BELLBOY:       Goodbye, Ace. (PAUSE) And goodbye, Kingpin.

31. INT. CORRIDOR.

ACE, DEADBEAT AND THE DOCTOR COME OUT OF THE DOOR. DEADBEAT IS STILL SINGING SOFTLY. THE DOCTOR AND ACE START TO JOIN IN SOFTLY AS THEY GO OUT OF VIEW.



32. EXT. HIPPIE SITE. DAY.

TWO CLOWNS IN UNDERTAKERS' GEAR CARRY THE METAL BUS CONDUCTOR ON HIS STRETCHER BACK TOWARDS THE BUS.

THEY PUT THE STRETCHER DOWN AND THE CONDUCTOR RISES UP FROM IT. BUT HE HAS BEEN REDRESSED AS A TICKET INSPECTOR WITH APPROPRIATE COSTUME AND GEAR.

~~INSPECTOR~~: Could I see your tickets please ?

**CONDUCTOR:**

33. INT. VESTIBULE.

MORGANA STARES INTO THE INEVITABLE CRYSTAL BALL.

MORGANA: The acts will keep on coming now, we promise. And no one will ever dare go near the Bus again. Those who remain are your servants to do with as you wish.

PAUSE. THE EYE STARES OUT AT HER.

MORGANA: (PASSIONATELY) How could I ever have wanted to resist your power?

34. INT. STONE CORRIDOR.

ACE AND THE DOCTOR ARE PROPELLING DEADBEAT THROUGH THE STONE ARCH.

DOCTOR: You see those moon symbols ?

ACE: Yeah.

DOCTOR: They really upset Mags.

ACE: Takes all sorts. (TO DEADBEAT) Cheer up, Kingpin, nearly there.

AS THEY ENTER THE CORRIDOR, WE STAY WITH THE MOON CARVINGS.

35. INT. BACKSTAGE.

MAGS PACES THE CAGE ANIMAL-LIKE. THE CAPTAIN LOOKS UP.

CAPTAIN: Calm down, Mags. There'll be some more contestants along soon.  
We're doing very well.

MAGS: That poor kid.

CAPTAIN: Us or him, Mags. And before you get too high and mighty, don't  
forget where you'd be without me. Dead with a bullet in you on  
the Planet ~~Vulpine~~ <sup>Vulpane</sup>. A silver bullet.

MAGS: I know that, Captain. But you didn't do it for me. You did it for  
yourself. I only wish I knew what you were after.

CAPTAIN: (CALMLY) All in good time, Mags, all in good time. A man who has  
played whist with the Card Carrying Dervishes of Tyrade and won  
always plays his cards close to his chest.

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36. INT. CORRIDOR. (AS IN SC. 31)

THE CHIEF CLOWN AND HIS COHORTS COME DOWN THE CORRIDOR AND  
STOP OUTSIDE THE DOOR.

37. INT. STONE CHAMBER.

THE DOCTOR, ACE AND DEADBEAT EDGE THEIR WAY TOWARDS THE WELL.

ACE: It's alright, Kingpin, nearly there.

HE WHIMPERS AND TRIES TO RUN BACK. BUT ACE RESTRAINS HIM.

ACE: Hold on, please.

THEY HELP DEADBEAT TO THE EDGE OF THE WELL.

DOCTOR: (GENTLY) Now show us, please, Deadbeat, what you did. When you first saw that eye.

VERY SLOWLY AND TREMBLINGLY DEADBEAT ADVANCES TO THE WELL.  
HE DOES NOT DARE LOOK DOWN BUT SLOWLY AND PAINFULLY HE LIFTS UP THE MEDALLION HE WEARS ROUND HIS NECK AS HE DID IN THE VESTIBULE. UNDERNEATH IS A SMALL SPARKLING MIRROR THAT GIVES OFF A STRANGE GLOW. IT IS IN THE SHAPE OF AN EYE BUT WHERE THE EYEBALL SHOULD BE THERE IS A GAP WHERE THE GLASS IS MISSING. HE HOLDS IT UP FOR A MOMENT AND THEN COLLAPSES.  
ACE GOES TO HIM. THE DOCTOR MEANWHILE PEERS INTO THE WELL.

ACE: Well done, Kingpin, great stuff.

DOCTOR: (FROM BY THE WELL) He must have used this medallion to summon the power that lurks here.

ACE: I think I know why, Professor.

DOCTOR: Really, Ace, why ?

ACE: Look ! (SHE RAISES THE MEDALLION) The mirror here. It's an eye.

DOCTOR: Like that eye that plagues us everywhere. (EXAMINING IT) But with the eyeball removed by someone.

THE TRUTH ALMOST HITS THEM SIMULTANEOUSLY.

ACC: Hidden ?

DOCTOR: In that bus ?

ACE: Where Flowerchild died trying to get it.

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THEY STARE AT EACH OTHER. DEADBEAT STARTS TO SING FEEBLY.

DEADBEAT: We shall be free... we shall be free... we shall be free...

38. INT. WORKSHOP.

BELLBOY LIES AMIDST HIS MASSED ROBOTIC HALF-REPAIRED CREATIONS.  
THE CHIEF CLOWN CONFRONTS HIM WITH ROBOT CLOWNS BEHIND HIM.

CHIEF CLOWN: Where has the Doctor gone ?

BELLBOY: I don't know. I don't care any more. It's all gone, destroyed. You know that too. You were a wonderful Clown once. Inventive, funny, outrageous.

CHIEF CLOWN: (STRIKING HIM) Quiet.

BELLBOY: I'm not helping you any more, you see.

BELLBOY TAKES UP THE ROBOT CONTROL DEVICE HE USED IN SC. 5.

CHIEF CLOWN: Don't be a fool, Bellboy.

BELLBOY: They're not my clowns any more.

HE STANDS UP FOR THE FIRST TIME.

CHIEF CLOWN: You've gone crazy.

BELLBOY: It seems we've all made that particular journey in our own ways.

HE PRESSES THE CONTROL BUTTON AND TURNS TO THE ROBOTS.

BELLBOY: Don't hold back now. Deal with me as you dealt with Flowerchild.

TRIGGERED BY BELLBOY'S DEVICE, THE ROBOTS BEHIND GRAB BELLBOY.  
THOSE IN FRONT THAT CAME WITH THE CHIEF CLOWN CLUSTER IN.

BELLBOY DISAPPEARS BENEATH THE THRONG JULIUS-CAESAR LIKE. ~~THE~~

~~CHIEF CLOWN WATCHES.~~



39. INT. STONE CHAMBER.

THE DOCTOR AND ACE ATTEND DEADBEAT.

DOCTOR: It's so tantalising. To be so close to understanding it all. And yet still so far.

ACE: So we'll have to get hold of that other bit of mirror, Professor.

DOCTOR: (NODDING) Exactly. You'll have to take Deadbeat with you and get it from the bus. But, please, be careful.

ACE: Hang on a bit, Professor. This is all going a bit fast for me. I'll fetch it, no problem. But what about you ?

DOCTOR: I'm going back to the Ring.

ACE: Are you off your head ?

DOCTOR: No. But the Psychic Circus needs acts. We have to keep the powers occupied. Otherwise more innocents will die. If they have me, perhaps they won't worry too much about you for the moment.

ACE: (SHAKING HER HEAD) Sometimes I think it's you that's a bit crazy not Deadbeat here.

DOCTOR: Everybody remotely interesting is mad in some way or other. Now be off with you. (HE SMILES) Besides, after all the aeons and aeons of time travel, I have developed a remarkable survival instinct.

ACE: You'll need it.

40. INT. THE RING: SEATING.

THE FAMILY SIT WAITING AND EATING.

FATHER: I don't know where they find these acts, mother, do you ?

MOTHER: Never seem to get any better do they ? *dad?*

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40. (a) INT. CORRIDOR.

THE DOCTOR COMES DOWN A CORRIDOR WHICH LEADS TO THE BACKSTAGE AREA. TWO ROBOT CLOWNS STAND THERE.

HE COMES UP TO THEM.

DOCTOR: I believe you've been looking for me. ~~because~~ I'm wanted backstage.

HE BEAMS UP AT THEM.

In Sc. 41.

S.D. SHOULD NOW HEAR

THE CAPTAIN AND MAJOR LOOK UP  
IN AMAZEMENT.

THE CLOWNS LEAD THE DOCTOR  
BACK INTO THE CAGE

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41. INT. BACKSTAGE.

THE CAPTAIN AND MAGS LOOK UP IN AMAZEMENT.  
~~LEAD THE DOCTOR IN AND LET HIM~~  
CLOWNS ~~ARE LETTING THE DOCTOR~~ BACK INTO THE CAGE.  
HE SMILES AT THEM.

DOCTOR: Greetings, Captain Cook, Mags. You will be pleased to know the greatest act in the galaxy has returned to the fold.

CAPTAIN: Jolly good show, Doctor !

MAGS: (ANGRY) But, Doctor, I helped you to escape and -

DOCTOR: (GENTLY) I know, Mags, and I have not wasted the time you bought me but I have returned with an idea - (SEATING HIMSELF) - I would like to suggest that this time we all work together.

MAGS: Meaning ?

DOCTOR: Well, up to now the people in the cage have been played off against each other. And, of course, some people are cleverer at preserving themselves than others.

CAPTAIN: (SHRUGGING) Luck of the draw.

DOCTOR: (DRILY) Not entirely. So what I am proposing is that we all go in together. One for all and all for one. That should ~~be~~ <sup>throw</sup> a very big ~~spanner~~ <sup>spanner</sup> in the production line.

MAGS: (ENTHUSIASTICALLY) I'm with you, Doctor. And so's he.

CAPTAIN: Now wait a moment -

MAGS: (FIERCELY) Aren't you, Captain ?

CAPTAIN: (QUAILING BEFORE HER) Well, yes, Mags, I suppose so.

42. EXT. CIRCUS SITE. DAY.

ACE AND DEADBEAT CREEP OUT OF THE BACK ENTRANCE OF THE TENT.  
BEHIND THEM THE SOUNDS OF CIRCUS LAUGHTER GROW.  
THEY SPOT NORD'S BIKE PARKED NEARBY.  
ACE RUSHES TO IT, JUMPS ON IT AND TRIES TO START IT.  
DEADBEAT WATCHES APATHETICALLY.  
THE BIKE REFUSES TO BE KICKED INTO ACTION.

ACE:           (WITH A SIGH) He never did fix that valve.

43. EXT. HIPPY SITE. DAY.

METAL HANDS GRASP THE DRIVING WHEEL OF THE HIPPY BUS.

WE HEAR THE VOICE OF THE METAL TICKET ~~INSPECTOR~~:

~~INSPECTOR~~ CONDUCTOR (NOW DRESSED AS AN INSPECTOR)

CONDUCTOR: Tickets, can I see all tickets please.

CONDUCTOR:

44. INT. CIRCUS RING.

THE CANNED ROAR OF THE CROWD. BY THEIR STANDARDS THE FAMILY LOOK QUITE ANIMATED.

THE RINGMASTER STANDS AT THE SIDE OF THE RING AMIDST THE CIRCLE OF CLOWNS.

RINGMASTER: And now let's welcome not one act but three  
To the Greatest Show in the Galaxy...

HE GESTURES TOWARDS THE BACKSTAGE ENTRANCE AND THE DOCTOR, MAGS AND THE CAPTAIN ENTER TRIUMPHANTLY.

THE CAPTAIN IS LAST ON. HE PAUSES BRIEFLY TO HAVE A WORD WITH THE RINGMASTER WHO NODS IN AGREEMENT.

THE OTHERS TURN SUSPICIOUSLY TO SEE IF HE'S GOING TO FOLLOW.

CAPTAIN: Sorry everyone.

HE JOINS THE OTHER TWO IN THE CENTRE OF THE RING.  
THEY ACKNOWLEDGE THE APPLAUSE.

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45. INT. RINGSIDE SEATING.

THE FAMILY WATCH SO INTERESTED THAT THEY STOP EATING.



46. INT. CIRCUS RING.

THE RINGMASTER AND THE CLOWNS ARE GONE.

THE TRIO STAND ALONE IN THE RING.

THE CAPTAIN COMES TO THE FRONT TO ACKNOWLEDGE APPLAUSE.

CAPTAIN: Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen, but before we start, I would like to make one small request from stage management. A special lighting effect.

MAGS: (QUIETLY) No.

THE DOCTOR STARES AT HER PUZZLED.

CAPTAIN: Could you perhaps give us that old devil moon effect ?

A MOONLIGHT EFFECT HITS MAGS AND MAGS ALONE.

MAGS: No...no...

THE CAPTAIN BACKS AWAY INTO THE GLOOM. THE DOCTOR, HOWEVER, WATCHES AMAZED AS MAGS STARTS TO SHAKE AND QUIVER. HE HEARS THE CAPTAIN'S VOICE.

CAPTAIN: You really were remarkably stupid this time, Doctor. I told you she was an unusual specimen. The growling. The snarling. The reaction to the moon. Surely you should have guessed.

AND SLOWLY BUT SURELY BEFORE THE DOCTOR'S HORRIFIED GAZE, MAGS STARTS TO TRANSFORM INTO A PUNK WEREWOLF...

END OF EPISODE